

25X1

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

CONFIDENTIAL

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| COUNTRY | Rumania | REPORT | |
| SUBJECT | Resistance Activities in Rumania | DATE DISTR. | 17 January 1955 |
| | | NO. OF PAGES | 4 |
| DATE OF INFO. | | REQUIREMENT NO. | RD |
| PLACE ACQUIRED | | REFERENCES | |
| This is UNEVALUATED Information | | | |

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
 THE APPRAISE OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. Accidents on the Rumanian railroads and in the oil fields were particularly evident after 1952. Although the Rumanian newspapers referred to these incidents as "accidents" they occurred too frequently to be considered coincidental. However, during a period in late 1952 or early 1953, the newspaper Scanteia publicized for three consecutive days a law to the effect that any person connected with an act of sabotage would be executed without trial. The official reason, as stated in the newspapers, for the explosion of locomotives was usually given as being due to excessive boiler pressure, faulty equipment, or poorly trained personnel.
2. a freight train, which consisted of about 50 freight cars and was supposedly loaded with various types of military equipment (Soviet guns and ammunition), was derailed into the Borcea River, a tributary of the

25X1

CONFIDENTIAL

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|---|------|---|---|------|---|-----|---|-----|--|-----|--|-----------|---|--|
| STATE | X | ARMY | # | X | NAVY | X | AIR | X | FBI | | AEC | | RUSIA/IRI | X | |
|-------|---|------|---|---|------|---|-----|---|-----|--|-----|--|-----------|---|--|

(NOTE: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")

25X1

CONFIDENTIAL

- 2 -

25X1

Danube, during the summer of 1952. The freight train was traveling during the night from Bucharest to Constanta. Although the newspapers stated that this was an accident, the people of Constanta spoke of it as sabotage.

- b. After 1952 [redacted] locomotive accidents occurring in the cities of Bucharest, Cluj, and Constanta. These accidents occurred so frequently that trains were always several hours to one day late in arriving at their destination. [redacted]

25X1
25X1

- c. During 1952-1953, [redacted] damages to the oil pipe lines leading from Floesti to other Rumanian cities. It was common knowledge among the people that occasionally oil derricks exploded, incidents they again attributed to sabotage.

25X1

- d. During July 1953, at the port of Constanta, many stevedores quit due to high norms and low pay. At that time there were 24 stevedore teams, each composed of 12 men. From August 1953 to January 1954, [redacted] 10 such teams, five of them being composed of Rumanian soldiers. [redacted] the stevedores quit on the pretext of having found better jobs; hence, no action could be taken against them.

25X1
25X1
25X1

- e. In July 1953, a conference was held in Bucharest with representatives of Sovrom Transport, the Ministry of Transportation, and the Confederation of Workers. Its purpose was to discuss the problems of stevedores and working norms. [redacted]

25X1
25X1

[redacted] one item of discussion was the fact that in July 1953 a large number of stevedores working at ports along the Danube River had quit their jobs. Consequently, peasants from the immediate areas of the ports were used as stevedores. However, their work was unsatisfactory and river transportation was delayed.

- f. In the fall of 1952, people spoke of a workers' disturbance and absenteeism at the "23 August" heavy machinery plant and at the Grivita Rosie railroad repair shops in Bucharest. The workers stayed away from their jobs for about one week. The workers reportedly damaged about 500 lathes at the Grivita Rosie shop. There was no publicity of this mass absenteeism because the majority of workers were members of the Communist Party and it would have indicated that even the Communists complained about the high norms and low pay.

- g. About April 1953, [redacted]

25X1
25X1

[redacted] anti-regime leaflets were dropped over Bucharest by an unidentified aircraft. They described the leaflets as being worthless 1,000 lei bank notes, which had been legal tender prior to the redenomination in 1947. White crosses were drawn across the figures and the portrait on the bank notes. These crosses supposedly carried a meaning of "Faith and Liberation." According to hearsay information, anti-regime leaflets were again dropped over Bucharest about May 1953 by an unidentified aircraft. The leaflets were described as being white sheets of paper, approximately 10 by 15 centimeters, on which were printed in black letters, "Rumanians have patience - The Communists will be exterminated."

- h. Church attendance had increased despite the Communist pressure to destroy the people's religious beliefs. During Easter 1951 a few soldiers were posted in front of many churches to keep the people from attending services. However, the people pushed their way past the soldiers to attend services. Since then, the Communist Party had not made any other attempt to discourage the people from attending religious services.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

- 3 -

25X1

1. The people frequently complained among themselves about the shortages of food, clothing, and heating fuels, which were rationed. Such items as cooking oil, fats, soap, sugar, clothing, shoes, and heating fuels were very scarce.
2. The Romanian people did not outwardly show any attitude toward the present regime. the people were submissive and that perhaps their patience was exhausted in waiting for liberation. their true attitude was one of hate and resignation. However, the Communists appeared to be losing ground in the country. The Party attempted to apply the principle of the semi-independent cooperative to the merchant marine service, which would replace the Severn transport agency. This move did not materialize due to lack of support by the people. 25X1
25X1
3. About 21-22 August 1953, subsequent to a plenary conference in Bucharest, Premier Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej gave a speech in which he stated that the people could look forward to economic improvement. Consequently, about November 1953, legislation was passed giving the people more benefits, which were as follows:
 - a. A 50% decrease in working norms set for workers but with an additional 30% pay added if the remaining 50% work norm was produced.
 - b. Membership in collective farming no longer compulsory but on a voluntary basis.
 - c. State banks were authorized to grant loans of 10,000 lei or extend credit for a similar amount to individual farmers. Loans and/or credit were to be used for purchases of construction materials, farm seed, machines, and livestock.
 - d. All debts incurred by farmers as a result of their failure to produce the set norm were cancelled.
 - e. Sons of well-to-do farmers (Chiaburi) were to be accorded the same rights and privileges as the workers, and not to be discriminated against.

The farmers and workers, however, considered these so-called benefits as concessions due to the weakness of the Party. Consequently, it only increased their dissatisfaction and encouraged the people to ask for additional benefits and changes in order to ease their hardships or to bolster their position.
4. There was no outward display of anti-Semitism in Rumania. The people, however, were very anti-Semitic because the Jews joined the Party, occupied important posts, and performed important functions for the State. Jews did not serve in the Rumanian forces and any change in the government appeared to benefit the Jews. Most commercial representatives of Rumania who were in foreign countries were Jews.
5. The effect which the present regime had on the youth of the country was not known. However, parents appeared to have a great influence on their children and this parental influence was a difficult factor to overcome by the Party.
6. none of the political emigres from Rumania have managed to impose as large an influence on the Rumanian population as has the monarchy, symbolized by former King Michael. Whether Michael was a desirable or undesirable monarch was a question which could be decided at a later date. 25X1

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

- 4 -

25X1

7. information about a specific covert resistance group in Rumania:

25X1

Name of group: Porcupine "Ariciul."

Location: In the mountains of Buzau (45-38 N, 26-11 E). One contact point was the village of Dumitresti (44-41 N, 24-19 E).

Leader: Colonel Arienescu, a former Rumanian national hero.

Type of members: Former Rumanian military officers, political figures, white collar workers, and peasants. The group also included persons who at some prior time were members of covert groups and now wanted by the Rumanian security police.

Number of members: 500 to 600.

Type of activities: Believed to be inactive because of the lack of clothing, food, and ammunition.

Date group organized: Some time after World War II.

25X1

CONFIDENTIAL